

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 JIDDA 04692 251238Z
ACTION AGRE-00

INFO OCT-01 NEA-11 ISO-00 STR-07 EB-08 COME-00 TRSE-00
/027 W

-----041454 251241Z /43

R 251105Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2474
INFO AMCONSUL DHAHRAN
USLO RIYADH

UNCLAS JIDDA 4692

E.O. 11652:N/A
TAGS: ETRD, EAGR, SA
SUBJ: REPORTED EGG IMPORT RESTRICTION

REF: STATE 152851

1. MINISTRY OF COMMERCE OFFICIALS, CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND LOCAL IMPORTERS STATES THERE HAS BEEN NO RESTRICTION ON IMPORT OF EGGS. EGGS FROM LEBANON WERE TEMPORARILY BANNED RECENTLY BUT NOW THAT BAN IS LIFTED. REASON FOR BAN NOT REVEALED.

2. EGG MARKET HERE IS GOVERNED BY LOCAL DEMAND REGARDING IMPORTS. DURING LOW SEASONS ALL CONSUMERS PREFER FRESHER LOCAL EGGS AND IMPORTS DROP OFF SIGNIFICANTLY. ONLY DURING HAJ SEASON WHEN MILLION OR MORE PILGRIMS FLOCK TO JIDDA, MECCA AND MEDINA DO EGG IMPORTS RISE. SAUDI ARABIA OTHERWISE IS ALMOST SELF-SUFFICIENT IN EGG PRODUCTION.

3. ALL IMPORTED EGGS MUST BE COLOR STAMPED USUSLLY IN RED OR PURPLE, TO DENOTE FOREIGN ORIGIN. EGG SHIPMENTS ARRIVING UNSTAMPED ARE REFUSED ENTRY.

4. MARKET WILL BE EXCELLENT FOR IMPORTS IN AUGUST RAMDAM PERIOD, AND ALSO DURING OCTOBER/NOVEMBER HAJ
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SEASON. U.S. EGG EXPORTERS SHOULD BE MAKING CONTRACTS NOW. FOREZEN EGGS AS PROMOTED DURING RECENT FAS TRADE MISSION TO JIDDA SHOULD REMAIN IN GOOD DEMAND FOR CONSTRUCTION CAMPS. AT PRESENT EGG PRODUCTION IN TAIF AND OTHER AREAS IS AT PEAK AND IMPORTS ARE DOWN.

5. SHOULD U.S. EXPORTER HAVE PROBLEM WITH ACTUAL

SHIPMENT, EMBASSY WILL ASSIST IF PROVIDED ALL DETAILS.
WEST

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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